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The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan: draft resolution

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of any State, as well as of the inviolability of internationally recognized borders and the inadmissibility of the use of force for the acquisition of territory,

Reaffirming also the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949[1] and the Additional Protocols thereto,[2] as well as international standards of human rights,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) of 30 April 1993, 853 (1993) of 29 July 1993, 874 (1993) of 14 October 1993 and 884 (1993) of 12 November 1993,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 48/114 of 20 December 1993 entitled "Emergency international assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan",

Expressing its serious concern at the continued occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan,

Alarmed and gravely concerned at the current situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan and its detrimental impact on the efforts to achieve peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan,

Gravely concerned at the reports regarding the transfer of settlers into the occupied territories of Azerbaijan from which all persons have been expelled,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

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Emphasizing that such actions, as well as the appropriation of land and property, the exploitation of natural resources and other illegal activities in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, constitute a serious violation of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[3]

Encouraging the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to increase its activities to achieve a rapid and durable settlement of the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and also welcoming to this end efforts by the Council of Europe, the European Union and the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

1. *Reaffirms* its continued strong support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

2. *Urges* the parties to the conflict to persist in striving for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the basis of the relevant norms and principles of international law;

3. *Reaffirms* the right of refugees and internally displaced persons from the area of the conflict to return voluntarily to their homes safely and with dignity, with the assistance of the international community;

4. *Strongly appeals* to the parties to the conflict to strictly observe and respect the rules of international humanitarian law;

5. *Stresses* that neither the current situation within the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, nor any action undertaken there to consolidate the status quo of occupation, may be recognized as legally valid;

6. *Also stresses* that all such actions, including the transfer of settlers into the occupied territories, are illegal and constitute a violation of international law, in particular international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and must cease and be reversed immediately;

7. *Invites* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to dispatch urgently a multinational fact-finding mission, composed of the representatives of the participating States of the Organization with the relevant expertise, to inquire into and report on all aspects of the situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, and requests the Secretary-General to provide, if necessary, the relevant assistance to this end;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan".

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[3] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.